

January 12, 2025

*The shepherds desire to be supportive and accessible to you! We encourage you to speak to any one of us, or write a note about your concerns, or things we might help with.*

# Lakeview Church of Christ

## Blaspheming the Holy Spirit

<sup>22</sup>Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. <sup>23</sup>All the people were astonished and said, "Could this be the Son of David?" <sup>24</sup>But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, "It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons." <sup>25</sup>Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. <sup>26</sup>If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup>And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. <sup>28</sup>But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>29</sup>"Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house. <sup>30</sup>"Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup>And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup>Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. <sup>33</sup>"Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. <sup>34</sup>You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. <sup>35</sup>A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. <sup>36</sup>But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. <sup>37</sup>For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned." Matthew 12:22-37



### CONTACT US

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### OUR SHEPHERDS:

Kenny Coleman Darrell Davis

Jim Karkosky

Phil Leupold Ray West

Preaching Minister: Brent McFarland

### MEETING AT:

1709 112th Street S. \* Tacoma, WA

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 A.M.

Sunday Worship Assembly: 10:00 A.M.

(& live stream on You Tube)

Wednesday Bible Class: - 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday Bible Class on ZOOM - 7:00 P.M.

*AIM - Adventures In Missions*

*Delano Bay Christian Camp*

*Mountain States Children's Home*

*Jos, Nigeria—Tom Ekpot*

*Paris Mission - Roland Mohsen*

### LIFE GROUP MEETINGS:

Jim Karkosky or Rex Farnsworth

Gary Calkins or Ray West

Darrell Davis or Don Mellor

Phil Leupold

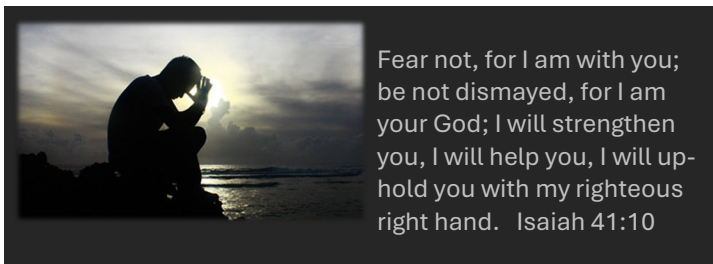
Ray Glasman or C Baidoo-Essien

Rich Ewing or Wendell Tillman

Kenny Coleman or Matt King

Don Russell or Keith Purser

*contact a host/facilitator for meeting time*



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Cyndi Larsen requested prayer for friends, Jeff and Suzanne. Their house was destroyed in the LA fires. Please pray for all those affected by this destruction.
- Teresa Hutton was unable to attend our assembly last week, due to lower back pain.
- For Don Langeliers as he is recovering from surgery to repair damage to his broken foot.
- David Cornwall asked for continued prayer for Mary Healey and her family; in addition to the house fire, her car was broken into, bringing more stress. Update on Debbie's cousin - Patty is still hospitalized as the search for a suitable Adult Family Home continues.
- Please remember those with continued concerns:

*Bob Bruns, Ralph Coleman, Debbie Cornwall, Linda Ewing, Bob & Lily Hanson, Joan Haughwout, Duane Henton, Sharon Henton, Marilyn Likens, Mike & Terry Martin, Dennis Mellor, David Newman, Brett Nowlin, Thomas Pruett, Carol Robison, Sunday Sawyer, Doug Smith, Cheryl Tillman, Jack Voyles, Jane Voyles, Ida Wilson, Ray West*



A memorial for Kyle Calkins will be held at Life Christian Chapel (located at 1717 S. Union, Tacoma) on January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am.

## LAKEVIEW CALENDAR

- CANCER SUPPORT GROUP, BEGINNING JAN 13, MONDAYS @ 6:00 PM
- MARTIAL ARTS, MONDAY & THURSDAY @ 5:30 PM
- LADIES' THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS @ 10:00 AM
- ASL CLASS - THURSDAYS @ 7:00 PM, ROOM 4
- MEN'S GROUP, THURSDAYS @ 7:00 PM, ROOM 2
- YOUNG ADULTS - SATURDAYS @ 5:30 PM, ROOM 2
- LADIES' PRAYER GROUP - 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY @ 10:00 AM

## TEEN CALENDAR

- Weekly Devo / Get Together, Fridays @ 6:30 PM

## "The Story of the Old Testament"

class at Lakeview Church of Christ on Wednesday nights, 6-9 pm Jan 29-April 30.  
Teacher: Dr. Mark McLean (Silverdale, WA)

**Class Description** - This course is a three-credit hour survey of the Old Testament. Special attention will be given to the flow of God's interaction with the nation of Israel through the Old Testament era. Appropriate historical and cultural backgrounds will be addressed when introducing the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament canon. Major theological doctrines and high-profile characters of the Old Testament will be studied within their historical context.

Mature high school juniors and seniors may take the class for credit. Credit students will be expected to spend 4-6 hours a week outside of class on homework assignments, as is typical for college work. Our target student is someone of traditional college age who has a "Sunday School knowledge" of the OT but wishes to gain a broader understanding of the purpose of the OT. Of course, anyone may audit the course. It is a "survey" course, not a verse by verse study of the whole OT! Students are expected to purchase the textbook shown on the flyer (available in the foyer) prior to class, and bring their own Bible (Mark will use the ESV).

**Class Structure & Required Textbook** - At each NWSD course, attention is given to Knowledge, Affection, and Obedience. This means we will not only be learning about God, but we will be seeking to love Him and obey His will for us. Each class meeting will include a study of the scriptures using an interactive lecture and discussion format. Every participant should have a good **print** copy of the Bible in a standard translation.

**Cost & Registration** - For students who would like to audit the class, the recommended donation is \$30. For those taking the course for **college credit**, the course fee is \$60. Registration is required so we can set up chairs appropriately. To register or to learn more about the Northwest School of Discipleship, and to view the full course syllabus, please visit [www.nwschoolofdiscipleship.com](http://www.nwschoolofdiscipleship.com)



**Cancer Ministry Group** ~ On January 13<sup>th</sup> our support group will begin meeting on Monday evenings at 6:00 PM. All are welcome. If you have any questions, please see Phil Leupold or Wendell Tillman.



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF  
DECEMBER, 2024  
(Tom Ekpot Jr.)



Dear Beloved brethren,

On behalf of my wife and myself, I say “Happy and Prosperous New Year to you all.” It is traditional that at the beginning of the year like this everybody wishes each other a happy and prosperous year ahead. By happy and prosperous new year, people believe if they have more money they will be happy. Well, for us as Christians our happiness comes from the riches in Christ, where we can be sure our hope in heaven is secured. I pray that this year will provide us with more opportunities to serve God better, and hold onto our faith in Christ. The year in retrospect was not completely a bad one, though I had bad experiences that touched my emotion. We still have reasons to thank God for all that he accomplished in us, for us, and through us. We hope and pray this year will provide us more opportunities to serve God faithfully.

The month of December was a brief one. I traveled to see my aged mother in the early part of the month. It was necessary I traveled then before the road become too busy because of Christmas rush. It was necessary I see her as January 6 marks a year since the burial of my late dad. My mom has been mourning him till now. I pray God will grant her the grace to adjust so that she can manage the rest of her life on earth well.

The congregation in Rayfield, Jos, has taken interest in the ministry to the vulnerable, especially, the widows. The violent attacks in Plateau have increased in no small measure the number of widows in the church and even outside the church. It is in this light that the church thinks of how they can be of help. The widows’ day is scheduled for the last Sunday of the year. In the month of December 2024, we were able to reach out to 12 widows. We invited these widows 2 each from different congregations in Jos area. The Lakeview congregation made provision for this program to happen in 2023 and they sponsored it again in 2024. We return thanks to God for them. We shared 25kg bags of rice and tubers of yam to each widow that came around. Last year, we attended to ten widows,



(continued on back page)

Men’s Service Calendar - the January coordinator is Chet Hunter

	JANUARY 12	JANUARY 19	JANUARY 26
Communion	Ryan Hill	Chet Hunter	Nathan Cotts
Reading	Kurt Turner	James Reid	Leon Likens
Closing Prayer	Keith Purser	Kevin English	Joseph Potter

December Tray Passers:  
Logan Pierce, Tristan Pierce, David Newman, Eric Roley, Brian Turner, Isaac Minson, David Myers, Isaiah McFarland

JANUARY 5, 2025 Attendance: 199 Contribution: \$19,801

Announcements: Jonathan Mohr



and this year, we increased by two.

Brethren, it was a moment of joy and tears. They all expressed gratitude to God for such benevolence in a hard time like this. To be frank, most of these women cannot afford to buy up to 1kg of rice at this time in Nigeria. This gesture will go a long way in showing them the love of God. The church wants to make this a yearly exercise. Lord willing, we will invite another set of widows this year.



In 2024, two congregations in Mangu were attacked by the Islamic militants. The church building were completely destroyed and the members fled to other neighboring communities. Since then, most of them are refugees in people homes and public buildings. We decided to visit with them. We bought grains, fertilizers for farming, clothes and mattresses for them. It was touching when we saw where these brethren are putting up. More so during this cold weather in Plateau State.

Below is a picture of the brother from the Southern Nigeria who sponsored most of the items, some of the church members and the donations we made available to them.



Please, keep them in your prayers that peace will return to that environment.

The congregations in Mazah, Foron Mission and New Foron are doing well. I am glad to mention that the New Foron congregation is getting a preacher who has agreed to work with the small congregation. It is a sacrifice he has made because the congregation is a small one, and can't sustain him financially. I have to support them just like the one in Foron Mission if the preacher

must survive there. I really appreciate the help coming from you. Without you, this mission would not have been possible. May God bless you all in his special way. If not for the regular violent attacks on some villages here in Plateau and the insecurity in the northern Nigeria, these congregations would have grown faster than what we have now. But we still appreciate God for the souls saved in these places. Once again, thank you so much. May God continue to bless you and your families.

Grace and Peace,

Tom

Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples!

1 Chronicles 16:24